ABSTRACT

Air introduction device for anastomotic leak testing including an elastomeric body optimally configured for partial insertion into the rectum, occlusion of the anus and attachment to a commercially available insufflation bulb. The air introduction device may be dip molded in one piece to form a single use, disposable product. The body has a proximal portion insertable into an anus of a person to cause the anus to constrict around it and form a seal against the anal wall, a distal portion mating with the insufflation bulb to enable air to be directed therefrom into and through the body and an expanded portion which is larger than the proximal portion and interposed between the proximal portion and the distal portion. The expanded portion occludes the anus by engaging with the anal opening to limit insertion of the proximal portion into the anus and seal the body against the anal opening. Embodiments incorporating means to allow the insertion of an endoscope through the device for visual inspection of an anastomosis, and means to prevent over-inflation of the rectum are described.

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